

PAINSWICK PROBUS CLUB

The Minutes of the Club's twenty seventh Annual General Meeting held at the Painswick Centre on Wednesday 11th April 2018

1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from the following 9 members: Mike Breeze, Mike Campbell, Ian Eastwood, Bill Eastwood, John Newhill, Gordon Owen, Mike Steed, Robert Stevens, and David Walker.

25 members were present.

2 Minutes of the twenty sixth AGM

The minutes of the twenty sixth AGM had been displayed on the Club website. There were no comments from the floor. Approval of the minutes of the twenty sixth AGM was proposed by Philip Morris, seconded by John Courts, and approved by the meeting. The minutes were subsequently signed by the Club President.

3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the 2017 AGM that required further discussion.

4. President's Report

The President's report is attached at Appendix 1. In the absence of the Secretary due to a prior engagement, his report which formed part of the President's report, is attached at Appendix 2.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Income & Expenditure account for the year ending 5th March 2018 and the budget and comments for the following year 2018/19 was presented and discussed. The expenditure budget for 2018/2019 was increased by £100 following an observation from the floor. The balance in the current account as of 5th March 2018 stood at £2011.03. Income for the past year exceeded expenditure by £62.54.

Although the Club had lost 7 members (see Secretary's Report), it had gained 7 new members so there was no reason to recommend any increase in the annual subscription. The annual subscription should therefore remain at £45. The meeting accepted the Treasurer's recommendation.

The Club thanked John Wylde for carrying out an independent financial review of the Treasurer's accounts.

Acceptance of the Treasurer’s report was proposed by Henry Hall, seconded by Russ Herbert and carried unanimously.

6. Appointment of Independent Financial Reviewing officer

John Wylde had agreed to review the Club Accounts for 2018/2019. The appointment was supported unanimously by the meeting.

7. Appointment of Officers

The following appointment was agreed with no other nominations proposed:

PRESIDENT Basil Butler

The new President was given the Chain of Office by the outgoing Henry Hall and formally took over the chair for the meeting. The following appointments were approved by the meeting:

Appointment		Proposer	Seconder	Approval
Vice-President	Somerset Moore	Basil Butler	Russ Herbert	100%
Secretary	Ian Eastwood	Henry Hall	John Rohrbeck	100%
Treasurer	John Rohrbeck	Basil Butler	Simon Graesser	100%
Committee members:				
Speaker Secretary	John Courts (1)			100%
Functions organiser	Paul Sparks			100%
Committee member	Philip Morris			100%
Immediate past President	Henry Hall	N/A	N/A	N/A
Independent financial reviewing officer	John Wylde			100%

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Note (1) - John Courts had asked to resign so a successor is needed urgently.

8. Any Other Matters

a. Address by the New President - Basil Butler

Basil described his international career as a petroleum engineer ending up with experience in senior management and as a managing director of BP.

b. Annual Club Outing

The annual Club outing is planned for 3rd October when we will make a visit to the new Aerospace Bristol museum at an estimated cost of £25 per head plus refreshments.

Henry Hall (acting as Sec)

15 April 2018

Appendices:

1. President's Report
2. Secretary's Report

Painswick Probus Club

AGM April 2018

President's Report

1. Soon after my election, the national media covered the terrorist attacks on Manchester and London, both of which we solemnly remembered. Around the same time I had to announce the passing away of Alan Major and of both David Ryland and Mary Roberts after long periods in decline.

These events caused me to pause for thought about how I could sustain this effort without earning a reputation for spreading depression. Mercifully, since the Grenfell tower fire disaster in June I have been spared the need to make more such tragic announcements.

2. Meetings then consistently started on more cheerful notes, focussing on the excellent and balanced programme of talks which John Courts arranged with his usual efficiency for which I thank him especially. Amazingly, with only a couple of exceptions, all the speakers turned up in good time. The meetings were enhanced by the quality of the questions from, and comments by members which often brought out the best from our speakers.

For those who missed a talk, John Wylde, with the occasional help from a deputy, has always produced an amazingly full account of the main points which appears in full on our website remarkably soon after each event. A much abbreviated version appears in the Painswick Beacon, primarily to entice potential members to become curious.

As you will hear later, we do need urgently a successor to John Courts as Speaker Secretary, so please ponder on that thought.

Still on the subject of talks, we are all indebted to Mike Steed for his efforts to control the sound system here to match the variable vocal characteristics and hearing capabilities of people, and to Jennie Barber, manager of the Painswick Centre.

3. I am hugely grateful to all of the long-serving committee members who have provided continuity (i.e. a timely and well-aimed nudge in the right direction when necessary) and made the role of President an easy and satisfying one for me to fulfil.

In addition to those already mentioned in my report, I mention now Ian Eastwood (Secretary), John Rhorbeck, (Treasurer), Ian Breckels (immediate past-President), Basil Butler (vice-President), Paul Sparks (Catering Organiser & MC), and Phil Morris without any of whom I would have struggled.

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4. Our Secretary, Ian Eastwood has kept an eye on membership figures and attendances. In his absence I'll read his report which will be attached to the minutes:

The bottom line here is that we have held our own with 7 losses and 7 gains, and that we all need to try harder to attend as frequently as possible to give our speakers a good listening to, and reward their effort.

5. Your President traditionally arranges the annual outing for October, and 2017 was no exception. The Royal Mint had been short listed for previous years outings but never quite made to top. As it turned out, the Royal Mint served us very well, providing us with a guided tour and an excellent buffet lunch. Because we had a few extra guests the event made a small profit which has helped the Treasurer to balance the books, more of which from John shortly.

6. A number of the speakers' fees go to charity. In addition, your President each year is granted a sum to pass to a charity of his choice. As I explained in some detail at the annual Summer Luncheon with the ladies, my choice of charity for this year is The Butterfly Garden, where Mr Chris Evans, who also runs Dundry Nurseries & Garden Centre near Staverton, provides an amazing range of opportunities for disadvantaged people to achieve satisfaction from useful work and social engagement with others. Let me read to you his letter of appreciation:

7 We again held the Ladies Summer Luncheon and Christmas Dinner at the Hill and again my thanks go to Paul Sparks for achieving a consistently high standard of organisation at this prestige establishment for many years. These events gave me an opportunity for me to explain to our ladies why their gentlemen disappear for a few hours every other Wednesday to address matters of national security and importance.

8. I had the pleasure of arranging the Annual Past Presidents' lunch at the Falcon, on this occasion. Again we mustered 9 including my vice-president who, given the name of the event, needed to be persuaded that he was eligible to attend.

9. Now, I have to confess than despite the splendid example set by my predecessor, whose skittles team so nearly beat the Yew Trees WI team in 2016, we again lost in 2017.

As I reported in the Painswick Beacon, Maurice Freeman excelled himself by adopting a kneeling position while playing his final ball and equalling the best score of any player that evening.

Nevertheless, we suffered a convincing defeat. On the other hand, the beer was in fine condition and plentiful, and the food which was

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generously provided by our opponents was excellent too, so a good time was had by all – which in my book was the main aim.

10. It has been a privilege to serve as your President and, as a relative new-comer to Painswick, to get to know more of its senior residents better. It would have been neither worthwhile nor even possible without all your support and encouragement for which I am truly grateful. I shall be pleased to assist my successor in any way that he may request.

11 Finally, I invite you all to join me after this meeting for a drink at The Royal Oak, as we celebrate a good year for the Club.

Painswick Probus Club

AGM April 2018

Secretary's Report

Attendances

We had 19 meetings since last year's AGM. The average attendance has been 32 (52%). Just very slightly less than recorded the previous year, which was 33.

Membership

The Club membership has remained the same at 61.

Sadly during the past year two members passed away. These were Alan Major and David Ryland.

The following resigned and left the Club:

David Bishop (left Painswick), Michael Middleton (left Painswick), Leoni Duccio, Ralph Kember and Michael Hill.

This year we are pleased to welcome six new members and one returnee:

Jeremy Dunnett, Simon Graesser, Roy Harper, Somerset Moore, Colin Moss and John Smee.

Glynn Nixon re-joined the Club after a short sabbatical in the Bristol area.

Ian Eastwood

30/03/18